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Attorney Docket No.: 0102323-00061

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR  
UNITED STATES LETTERS PATENT APPLICATION**

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post-office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**DIGITAL DATA SYSTEM WITH LINK LEVEL MESSAGE FLOW CONTROL**

the specification of which

(check one)

- is attached hereto.
- was filed on: 1/11/01

as Application No.: 09/758,949

and was amended on:  
*(if applicable).*

In the event that the filing date and/or Application No. are not entered above at the time I execute this document, and if such information is deemed necessary, I hereby authorize and request my attorneys/agent(s) at Nutter, McCennen & Fish, LLP, One International Place, Boston, MA 02110-2699, to insert above the filing date and/or Application No. of said application.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified application specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to herein.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me that is material to patentability in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

## FOREIGN PRIORITY CLAIM

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code §119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

(check one)

no such foreign applications have been filed.

such foreign applications have been filed as follows:

### EARLIEST FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY FILED WITHIN 12 MONTHS (6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO THIS U.S. APPLICATION

Country	Application Number	Date of Filing (month, day, year)	Priority Claimed Under 35 USC 119
			___ Yes ___ No ___
			___ Yes ___ No ___
			___ Yes ___ No ___
			___ Yes ___ No ___
			___ Yes ___ No ___

### ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY FILED MORE THAN 12 MONTHS (6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO THIS U.S. APPLICATION


### CLAIM FOR BENEFIT OF EARLIER U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION(s)

I hereby claim priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code §119(e), of any United States provisional patent application(s) listed below:

(check one)

- no such U.S. provisional applications have been filed.
- such U.S. provisional applications have been filed as follows:

Application Number	Date of Filing (month, day, year)	Priority Claimed Under 35 USC 119(e)
60/175,856	1/13/00	____ Yes      No ____
		____ Yes      No ____
		____ Yes      No ____

### CLAIM FOR BENEFIT OF EARLIER U.S./PCT APPLICATION(s)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code §120, of the United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United State Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information that is material to patentability in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56, and which became available to me between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(check one)

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Application Number	Date of Filing (month,day,year)	Status (Patented/Pending/Abandoned)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States

Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

I hereby appoint:

Ronald E. Cahill	Reg. No. 38,403	Lisa J. Michaud	Reg. No. 44,238
Maria M. Eliseeva	Reg. No. 43,328	Reza Mollaaghababa	Reg. No. 43,810
Thomas J. Engellenner	Reg. No. 28,711	Tram Anh T. Nguyen	Reg. No. 47,257
Michael I. Falkoff	Reg. No. 30,833	David J. Powsner	Reg. No. 31,868
William C. Geary III	Reg. No. 31,359	Richard J. Roos	Reg. No. 45,053

all of Nutter McClellan & Fish, LLP, One International Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02110-2699, jointly, and each of them severally, my attorneys at law/patent agent(s), with full power of substitution, delegation and revocation, to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the patent, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Please mail correspondence to: David J. Powsner  
at Customer Number **021125**, whose address is:

Nutter McClellan & Fish, LLP  
One International Place  
Boston, Massachusetts 02110-2699

Please direct telephone calls to: David J. Powsner  
at (617)439-2717.

Please direct facsimiles to: (617)310-9717

Full name of sole or first joint inventor Robert C. Frisch	
Inventor's Signature <i>Robert C. Frisch</i>	Date 4/12/01
Residence 29 Pine Ridge Road, Westford, Massachusetts 01886	
Country of Citizenship US	
Post Office Address (required) same as above	

Full name of second joint inventor Bryan D. Marietta	
Inventor's Signature	Date
Residence 13117 Boomer Lane, Austin, Texas 78729	
Country of Citizenship US	
Post Office Address (required) same as above	

Full name of third joint inventor Daniel L. Bouvier	
Inventor's Signature	Date
Residence 8112 Asherton Cove, Austin, Texas 78750	
Country of Citizenship US	
Post Office Address (required) same as above	

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Please mail correspondence to: David J. Powsner  
at **Customer Number 021125**, whose address is:

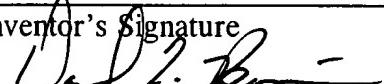
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One International Place  
Boston, Massachusetts 02110-2699

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Please direct facsimiles to: (617)310-9717

Full name of sole or first joint inventor Robert C. Frisch	
Inventor's Signature	Date
Residence 29 Pine Ridge Road, Westford, Massachusetts 01886	
Country of Citizenship US	
Post Office Address (required) same as above	

Full name of second joint inventor Bryan D. Marietta	
Inventor's Signature 	Date APRIL 6, 2001
Residence 13117 Boomer Lane, Austin, Texas 78729	
Country of Citizenship US	
Post Office Address (required) same as above	

Full name of third joint inventor Daniel L. Bouvier	
Inventor's Signature 	Date APRIL 9, 2001
Residence 8112 Asherton Cove, Austin, Texas 78750	
Country of Citizenship US	
Post Office Address (required) same as above	

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